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Message Text

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16
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 IO-14 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03

H-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 AGR-20 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 PM-07 INT-08 SCEM-02 NIC-01 AF-10 ARA-16

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R 190545Z OCT 73
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8497
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HONG KONG 10539

NOFORN

POUCHED:
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MANILA, MOSCOW, OTTAWA, PARIS, RANGOON, ROME (2)
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1. SUMMARY
THE FALL CANTON FAIR OPENED OCTOBER 15 WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN PRESENT. PRICES REMAIN HIGH BUT ARE GENERALLY FELT TO BE IN LINE WITH WORLD MARKET LEVELS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, U.S. " OFFICES" ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN (ITEM 2). NCNA HAS IDENTIFIED ANOTHER VICE MINISTER OF PLANNING WHO IS A WOMAN ("BEAUTIFUL LOTUS") AND PERHAPS A YOUNGER "NEW CADRE" (ITEM3). THE CHINESE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THEY WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO EXPAND OIL EXPORTS TO JAPAN, ALTHOUGH CONSTRUCTION OF NEW OIL TRANSPORT FACILITIES CONTINUES (ITEM 4). IN AVIATION, THE CANADIAN PACIFIC DELEGATION OBTAINED AGREEMENT IN PEKING ON TECHNICAL DETAILS CONCERNING PROPSPECTIVE CP SERVICE, THE BOEING 707 HAS BEEN USED ON A DOMESTIC FLIGHT, AND THE CHINESE HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN ICAO (ITEM 5). NORTH KOREA AND THE PRC HAVE SIGNED A BORDER RAILWAY TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT, AND NCNA HAS IDENTIFIED A SECOND MAJOR MOTOR VEHICLE PLANT (ITEM 6). UNDP ADMINISTRATOR PETERSON ARRIVED IN PEKING FOR A TEN-DAY VISIT (ITEM 7) AS THE PRC CONTINUED TO PRESS ITS DEMAND THAT THE GRC BE EXPELLED FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU SIGNED A TRADE AGREEMENT IN PEKING, THE 17TH BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED BY THE PRC THIS YEAR (ITEM 8). FRENCH FIRMS ANNOUNCED THE SALE OF A 16 PLANT COMPLEX VALUED AT NEARLY $300 MILLION (ITEM 9), AND A NEW ZEALAND TRADE MISSION WAS DELIGHTED TO REACH UNEXPECTED AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OF OVER $30 MILLION WORTH OF GOODS TO THE PRC (ITEM 10). CONFIDENTIAL

2. CANTON FAIR OPENS
CHINA'S 34TH EXPORT COMMODITIES FAIR OPENED OCTOBER 15 WITH THE TRADITIONAL BURST OF FIRECRACKERS AND CRUSH
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OF FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN. MISSING, HOWEVER, WERE THE MOANS OVER PRICE INCREASES AND BUYING SPREES BY JAPANESE BUSINESSEN WHICH CHARACTERIZED THE OPENING OF THE 1973 SPRING FAIR (ER 9, HK 4426). OVERALL, PRICES REMAIN HIGH BUT ARE GENERALLY FELT TO BE REASONABLE AND IN LINE WITH WORLD MARKET LEVELS. WHILE PERHAPS LESS AGGRESSIVE, THE JAPANESE CONTINUE TO HAVE THE LARGEST NATIONAL REPRESENTATION AT THE FAIR WITH 1,500 FIRMS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PART (JAPAN TIMES, OCT. 15).
AMONG MANY FOREIGN OFFICIALS AND GROUPS ATTENDING THE FAIR'S OPENING WERE SPECIAL DELEGATIONS FROM GUYANA (LED BY MINISTER OF TRADE GEORGE KING), BURUNDI (LED BY MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS LONGIN KANUMA), ZAMBIA, MALI, THE CONGO,

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NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, BURMA AND MALAYSIA.
ALTHOUGH TOTAL AMERICAN ATTENDANCE AT THE FAIR WILL
BE ABOUT THE SAME AS IN THE SPRING, A LARGE NUMBER OF U.S.
BUSINESSMEN WERE ON HAND FOR THE OPENING THAN EVER BEFORE.
AMONG THE 30-40 FIRMS REPRESENTED ARE SIX MAJOR DEPARTMENT
STORES (SEARS, J.C. PENNEY, BLOOMINGDALES, GIMBLES,
MARSHALL FIELD AND SAKS FIFTH AVENUE), GENERAL IMPORTERS
AND FOUR TOBACCO COMPANIES. U.S. OIL FIELD EQUIPMENT,
PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL COMPANIES WILL ALSO TAKE PART
(HK 3220).
CONTINUING THE TREND OF RECENT FAIRS, THIS ONE SEEMS
ALMOST DEVOID OF POLITICAL OVERTONES. EVEN THE USUAL
COPIES
OF "CHINA RECONSTRUCTS" WERE MISSING FROM THE HOTEL
MAGAZINE RACKS ON OPENING DAY. AMERICANS HAVE RECEIVED A
CORDIAL RECEPTION WITH THE CHINESE SEEMINGLY MORE RECEPTIVE
TO PACKAGING AND LABELING REQUESTS THAN IN THE PAST. FOR
THE FIRST TIME A USG "OFFICE" STAFFED BY ECONOMIC OFFICERS
FROM CONGEN HK AND USLO PEKING AND AN "OFFICE" OF THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF US-CHINA TRADE WERE AVAILABLE IN THE
TUNG FANG HOTEL TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO U.S. BUSINESSMEN
ATTENDING THE FAIR. CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

3. NEW STATE PLANNING VICE MINISTER
NCNA OCTOBER 13 IDENTIFIED KU HSIU-LIEN AS A VICE
MINISTER OF THE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION. KU, WHOSE GIVEN
NAME MEANS "BEAUTIFUL LOTUS," HAS BEEN APPEARING AS A
STATE COUNCIL "LEADING MEMBER" SINCE LATE 1970. WE HAVE
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NO RECORD OF HER PRIOR TO THAT TIME, WHICH SUGGESTS THAT
KU, IN ADDITION TO BEING A WOMAN, IS ALSO A YOUNGER "NEW
CADRE." BY CONTRAST, VICE MINISTER KU MING AND CHI LUNG
ARE BOTH VETERANS ASSOCIATED WITH ECONOMICS PRIOR TO THE
CULTURAL REVOLUTION. UNCLASSIFIED

4. PETROLEUM: OIL TRANSPORT FACILITIES; JAPAN
IN CHINGHUANGTAO HARBOR (HOPEI PROVINCE), THE FIRST
PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION OF A PETROLEUM TRANSPORT FACILITY
WAS COMPLETED, AND IT BEGAN OPERATING OCT 6. IT INCLUDES
A 746 METER EMBANKMENT, A 430 METER LANDING PIER, A 285
METER WHARF, CRUDE OIL PUMPING STATIONS, A CIRCULATING

VALVE CONTROL COMPLEX, OIL STORAGE TANKS AND A SEPTIC WATER
TREATING PLANT (NCNA SHIHCHIANCHUNG, OCT 6). IN 1969, THE
HONG KONG PRESS (WEN WEI PAO, JUNE 3 AND 4) HAD REPORTED
THAT VESSELS OF 30 TO 40,000 TONS HAD CALLED HERE. THIS
WARM WATER PORT LIES ON THE RAIL LINE BETWEEN TIENTSIN AND
NORTHEAST CHINA WHERE THE TACHING OIL FIELD IS LOCATED.
ACCORDING TO LIU HSI-WEN, LEADER OF THE PRC ECONOMIC AND
TRADE DELEGATION WHICH VISITED JAPAN RECENTLY, A 500
KILOMETER PIPELINE FROM TACHING TO FUSHUN HAS BEEN LAID AND

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WORK ON PIPELINES FROM TACHING TO DAIREN AND OTHER PORTS IS PROGRESSING (AFP TOKYO, OCT 1). THE SECRETARY TO THIS DELEGATION STATED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPAND CHINA'S EXPORTS OF OIL TO JAPAN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE SAID THAT CHINA'S OIL PRODUCTION IS DEVELOPING STEADILY BUT INTERNAL DEMAND IS "CORRESPONDINGLY LARGER" AND PRC EXPORT CAPABILITY IS LIMITED (UPI TOKYO, OCT 11). COMMENT: WHEN COMPLETED, THESE NEW FACILITIES COULD BE USED TO EXPEDITE MOVEMENT OF PETROLEUM WITHIN THE PRC AS WELL AS JAPAN. UNCLASSIFIED

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8498
USLO PEKING

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5. AVIATION: CANADA, 707, ICAO
ALTHOUGH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC DELEGATION (ER 20, HK 10197) AND THE CHINESE CIVIL AIR AUTHORITY HAVE SIGNED A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT IN PEKING, NO DATE HAS YET BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR START OF SCHEDULED SERVICE. THE PROBLEM OF EN ROUTE FUELING OF CP FLIGHTS IN JAPAN IS UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN GOC AND GOJ OFFICIALS (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, OCT 16). PROBABLE FIRST PASSENGER SERVICE USING A BOEING 707 OCCURRED OCTOBER 13 WHEN IT SUBSTITUTED ON SHANGHAI-PEKING FLIGHT FOR IL-18 WHICH HAD DEVELOPED MECHANICAL TROUBLES. THIS FLIGHT WAS UNSCHEDULED, BUT CHINESE APPEAR READY TO GO WITH REGULAR FLIGHTS AT ANY TIME (PEKING 1206). MEANWHILE, PRC REPS HAVE ASKED ICAO AND GOC FOR INFORMATION RE ICAO AND POSSIBLE

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VISIT TO PEKING BY ICAO OFFICIAL (MONTREAL 1978).
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6. TRANSPORTATION: KOREA: SECOND VEHICLE PLANT
AN AGREEMENT ON BORDER RAILWAY TRANSPORTATION WAS SIGNED IN PEKING OCTOBER 9 BY KANG BONG KUN, NORTH KOREAN MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, AND YANG CHIEH, CHINESE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (NCNA, OCTOBER 9). THE KOREAN MINISTER ARRIVED IN PEKING OCT. 7 AND WAS GIVEN MUCH ATTENTION. HE CALLED ON VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN AND YANG CHIEH ON OCTOBER 15. IN JULY, THERE WERE DISCUSSIONS IN PYONGYANG ON REVISION OF THE 1959 AGREEMENT. ONLY DEPUTY DIRECTORS ATTENDED THE ANNUAL JOINT MEETING HELD IN NORTH KOREA LAST YEAR. THE AGREEMENT SIGNED OCT 9 PROBABLY IS A REVISED VERSION OF THE 1959 AGREEMENT.
ACCORDING TO THE HONG KONG PRESS (MING PAO, SEPT 29), A SECOND MAJOR MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURING CENTER HAS BEEN DEVELOPED. THIS CENTER, THE "NO. 2 PLANT" AT HSIANGYANG (HUPEH PROVINCE), IMPORTED ITS ENTIRE EQUIPMENT FROM FRANCE IN 1965 AND BEGAN PRODUCTION IN 1971. ITS ANNUAL RATE OF PRODUCTION HAS REACHED 70,000 UNITS INCLUDING 7 TON TRUCKS. THE SOURCE QUOTED IN THIS ARTICLE, A CHINESE ENGINEER WHO HAD SERVED IN VARIOUS CHINESE VEHICLE PLANTS, ESTIMATED THAT CHINA'S ANNUAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY IS NO 160,000 VEHICLES. COMMENT: IF TRUE, THE "NO. 2 PLANT" IS THE LARGEST SINGLE FACILITY IN CHINA. THE NO. 1 MOTOR VEHICLE PLANT, IN CHANGCHUN PRODUCES ABOUT 5-60,000 UNITS ANNUALLY. TOTAL PRODUCTION, HOWEVER, IS STILL FAR SHORT OF NEED. THE LOCATION OF THE SECOND PLANT, IN A MOUNTAINOUS REGION NORTHWEST OF WUHAN, CONFORMS TO PRC POLICY RE DEFENSE AND REGIONAL SELF SUFFICIENCY. UNCLASSIFIED

7. UNITED NATIONS
FOLLOWING RECENT PRC DEMANDS FOR TAIWAN'S OUSTER FROM THE IMF AND IBRD (HK 9738, NCNA OCTOBER 9 REPORTED ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION BY UNECSO'S EXECUTIVE BOARD URGING THE EXPULSION OF GRC REPRESENTATIVES FROM RELATED INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (PARIS 25611). IN A STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE RESOLUTION, PRC REPRESENTATIVE HU SHA EXTENDED CHINA'S DEMANDS TO INCLUDE NOT ONLY "REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHIANG CLIQUE" BUT THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE UNDER THE CLOAK OF "SCIENTIST AND SCHOLARS" OR IN THE "NAME OF INDIVIDUALS." THE REPORT NOTED THAT THE ONLYDISSENTING VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION WAS CAST BY
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THE UNITED STATES. LATER THE PRC REAFFIRMED ITS DEMAND FOR OUSTING THE GRC FROM THE IMF AND IBRD DURING APPEAR-

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ANCES OF IMF DIRECTOR WITTERNER AND WORLD BANK PRESIDENT MCNAMARA BEFORE MEETINGS OF ECOSOC ON OCTOBER 15-16 (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, OCT 18).
MEANWHILE, UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR RUDOLPH PETERSON ARRIVED IN PEKING FOR A TEN-DAY VISIT OCT. 11 (NCNA). IN MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHI PENG-FEI AND MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES FANG YI, PETERSON WAS EXPECTED TO URGE THE CHINESE TO SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNDP IN 1974 AND TO MAKE A GREATER PORTION OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION CONVERTIBLE. IN 1973 CHINA PLEDGED $1.8 MILLION, OF WHICH 20 PERCENT IS CONVERTIBLE (STATE 191926). UNCLASSIIFED

8. BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS

FOLLOWING CHINA'S TREND TOWARD FORMALIZING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH ITS TRADING PARTNERS, CANADA HAS BECOME THE SEVENTEENTH COUNTRY TO CONCLUDE A TRADE AGREEMENT WITH PEKING THIS YEAR. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED IN PEKING OCT 12 BY PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU (HK 10197). IN A RECENT SUMMARY REPORT ON FOREIGN TRADE, NCNA STATED THAT CHINA NOW HAD TRADE RELATIONS WITH MORE THAN 140 COUNTRIES AND HAD SIGNED TRADE AGREEMENTS OR PROTOCOLS WITH OVER 50 OF THEM (HK 9689). THIS IS IN CONTRAST TO THE PRACTICE OF MULTILATERAL TRADE (FUNNELING TRADE THROUGH A FEW FRIENDLY COUNTRIES) WHICH PEKING WAS FORCED TO FOLLOW PRIOR TO ITS GENERAL NORMALIZATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND ADMISSION TO THE UN. FOR CHINA'S ECONOMIC PLANNERS THIS RATIONALIZATION OF COMMERCIAL PRACTICE HAS OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES AND THE TREND CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE. AS EVIDENCE, NCNA OCT. 17 ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL IN ARGENTINA OF A CHINESE ECONOMIC DELEGATION WHICH IT SAID WILL NEGOTIATE A TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THAT COUNTRY. UNCLASSIFIED

9. FRANCE: ECONOMIC UPSWING CONTINUES
CONTINUINGTHE UPSWING IN SINO-FRENCH ECONOMIC RELATIONS EVIDENT SINCE PRESIDENT POMPIDOU'S VISIT TO PEKING (HK 9410), TWO FRENCH FIRMS, SPEICHIM AND TECHNIP, HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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ANNOUNCED THE SALE OF A 16 PLANT PETROCHMEICAL COMPLEX VALUED AT NEARLY $300 MILLION (REUTERS PARIS, OCT 16).
FRANCE HAS NOW BECOME A MAJOR SUPPLIER OF COMPLETE INDUSTRIAL PLANTS TO CHINA WITH SALES THIS YEAR REACHING AN ESTIMATED $360 MILLION HK A-272).
IN PEKING, FOREIGN TRADE VICE MINISTER LI CHIANG PRESIDED AT OPENING CEREMONIES FOR A FRENCH EXHIBITION OF MEASURING AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS ON OCTOBER 9. AMONG THE MORE THAN 300 ITEMS ON DISPLAY WERE NUCLEAR INSTRUMENTS, RADIO CONTROLLED MEASURING EQUIPMENT, MEDICAL APPARATUS AND CINE-CAMERAS AND LENSES (NCNA).

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IN EUROPE, A CHINA COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF
INTERNATIONAL TRADE DELEGATION, LED BY CHAIRMAN WANG YAO-
TING, CONCLUDED TEN-DAY VISITS TO BOTH FRANCE AND SWITZER-
LAND AND DEPARTED FOR HOME ON OCT 16 (NCNA). IN BOTH
COUNTRIES THE CHINESE MET WITH GOVERNMENT MINISTERS,
BUSINESS LEADERS, TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND TOURED FACTORIES,
BUSINESSES AND POINTS OF INTEREST. THE DELEGATION HAD
PREVIOUSLY VISITED THE UK (ER 19, HK 9654). UNCLASSIFIED

10. NEW ZEALAND: TRADE DELEGATION SALES TOTAL $30 MILLION
DURING WHAT WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNED AS A FRIENDSHIP
AND FAMILIARIZATION TOUR, NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST TRADE MISSION
TO CHINA OCTOBER 4-13 CONCLUDED INITIAL SALES IN EXCESS OF $2
MILLION. LED BY MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TRADE JOSEPH WALDING,
THE DELEGATION ALSO SIGNED THE FIRST TRADE AGREEMENT
BEETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES (ER 20, HK 10197). IN HONG
KONG WALDING TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE MISSION HAD SECURED
ORDERS FOR WOOLEN GOODS, HIDES, TALLOW, LINERBOARD, TIMBER,
LIVESTOCK AND PASTURE SEED (HK STANDARD, OCT 17).
ALTHOUGH NOT YET MADE PUBLIC, THE DELEGATION ALSO
SIGNED A THREE YEAR, $30 MILLION AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE
OF WOOD PULP AND PAPER. AT THE SAME TIME THE NEW
ZEALANDERS AGREED TO PURCHASE $1 MILLION WORTH OF
CHINESE GOODS, MAINLY TEXTILES.
ACCORDING TO A HK NEW ZEALAND COMMISSION SOURCE, THE
DELEGATION HAD EXPECTED THE USUAL ROUND OF SIGHT SEEING
AND GENERAL TALKS BUT WERE DELIGHTED TO FIND THE CHINESE
ACTUALLY WANTED TO DO BUSINESS. THE SOURCE SAID THE GNZ
WAS PUZZLED, HOWEVER, ABOUT WHY THE CHINESE DECIDED TO
PUT SO MUCH BUSINESS THEIR WAY. IN THE PAST SINO-NZ
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TRADE HAS BEEN MINIMAL, TOTALING ONLY $8.3 MILLION IN 1972.
ENCOURAGED BY THE APPARENT CHINESE INTEREST IN INCREASING
TRADE, NZ WILL NOW APPOINT A TRADE COMMISSIONER TO ITS
EMBASSY IN PEKING. CONFIDENTIAL

11. RECENT REPORTS ON ECONOMIC TOPICS
HK 10214 IS PEKING GIVING NEW EMPHASIS TO RAILWAYS?
10266 US OIL COMPANIES INVITED BACK TO CANTON
10354 PRC DROUGHT RELIEF FOR ETHIOPIA AND CHAD
10355 VISIT BY DELEGATION FROM NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
US-CHINA TRADE
10402 PRC MID-1973 TRADE RETURNS: AN IMPRESSIVE
PERFORMANCE
HK A-272 PRC WHOLE PLANT PURCHASES SINCE DECEMBER 1972
A-281 PRC: POTENTIAL IMPORT OF ELECTRIC POWER
EQUIPMENT.
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